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NEWS NOTES

Electronics degrees available

Lackawanna College and Johnson College have created a collaborative program leading to an associate degree in electronics. Students take courses at both schools and may earn associate in applied science degrees in either communications electronic technology or electronic technology from Lackawanna. Registration for the fall semester ends Aug. 15.

For more information, call Bob Hadley, Technical Training Center, X56585.

FEW to host luncheon

The Tobyhanna chapter of Federally Employed Women is hosting a Women's Equality Day luncheon Aug. 31 at The Landing. The guest speaker will be Jill Garrett of WNEP-TV16 News. Tickets cost \$9 and can be purchased from directorate secretaries.

For more information, call Aryanna Hunter, X56877

NARFE members meet

The Pocono Chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Association meets at 1 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month, except January and February, in the Tobyhanna Army Depot Chapel. Refreshments will be available. A Christmas party and picnic will be announced.

For details, contact Oscar Lollis, chapter president, 570-839-9968, or olollis@ptd.net.

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Tobyhanna Reporter
ON THE DEPOT'S INTERNET SITE.

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NEWS/REPORTER

COMSEC Resets 50,000 Equipment repair mission supports Soldier in the field

by Jacqueline Boucher
Assistant Editor

Depot technicians have Reset 50,000 pieces of secure communications equipment being returned from Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

This milestone marks more than two years of repair work supporting Army units around the world. Working in coordination with the Army Reset Program, Communications Security

(COMSEC) Division employees repair and overhaul systems heavily used in combat.

"This achievement is a result of the hard work performed by hundreds of people at all levels of Reset," said Bob Dittman, Support Services Branch chief. "It takes a team effort to support a mission of this size."

During Reset, systems and equipment are returned to their pre-deployment [in OIF] condition. The objective is to restore the item to operational readiness based on established maintenance standards.

Warfighters returning from a deployment exchange their worn items for restored, mission-capable equipment to support future requirements. Reset items are exchanged one for one in a direct exchange program or repaired and returned to the user. The direct exchange program uses condition code A assets from Tobyhanna (also called seed assets). If seed assets aren't available at the depot, the equipment is repaired and returned to the unit. The number of Reset missions has increased from three in fiscal year 2004 to an estimated 77 this year.

"The Reset mission is COMSEC's largest workload," said Mark Costello, logistics management specialist, Communications Systems Directorate. He explained that when the mission started in 2004, workflow needed to be customized to suit the Reset project.

Everyone from the administrators who handle the paperwork, to the packers and shippers on the floor, track the items through every step of the Reset process—receiving, maintenance, packing and shipping.

"We know what's going on with each piece of equipment at every phase of repair," said Costello. The organization boasts a 100 percent accountability rate.

There's a 60-day window to get Reset items repaired and returned to the user, according to Costello. "We've never missed a suspense



John Mowatt moves pallets from the wrap machine to the warehouse floor while preparing for a Reset mission in Germany. Mowatt is a materials handler. (Photo by Tony Medici)



Barbara Margevich screens a KY-68 Tactical Digital Voice Telephone to determine if any repairs are needed during the Reset process. Margevich is an electronics mechanic. (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski)

date; we provide on-time delivery, every time," he said.

"Everyone here does a great job supporting the combat Soldier," said Dittman, pointing out that sand, dirt, and exposure to combat takes a toll on the state-of-the-art communications equipment.

Reset work can be accomplished on-site or at the depot. COMSEC employees also provide OIF and OEF in-theater support from two Forward Repair Activities.

Equipment items sent here for Reset range from AN/CYZ-10 (V3) Data Transfer Devices to KY-68 Digital Subscriber Voice Terminals.

Data Transfer Devices provide the means to secure a wide variety of communications equipment used throughout the services; KY-

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Face time with new depot
commander

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college costs

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Tobyhanna employees —
Make yourselves be heard

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NATO-ISAF forces assume command; help maintain security in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON—NATO’s International Security Assistance Force assumed command from coalition forces in southern Afghanistan July 31, continuing a process that began with the establishment of ISAF in Kabul in August 2003.

The NATO-ISAF forces operating in Regional Command South come from Australia, Britain, Canada, Estonia, Denmark, the Netherlands, Romania and the United States. NATO-ISAF forces have been flowing into the south for several months, preparing for the transfer of authority. When fully deployed, the force will total about 8,000 troops in the area, bringing the total ISAF force level to about 18,500.

The southern Afghanistan area of operations includes six provinces - Day Kundi, Helmand, Kandahar, Nimroz, Uruzgan and Zabul.

“This is one of the most challenging tasks NATO has every taken on, but it is a critical contribution to international security and a demonstration of our commitment to the people of Afghanistan,” NATO Secretary-General Jaap De Hoop Scheffer said.

ISAF assists the government of Afghanistan and the international community in maintaining security in its area of operations. Until now it had only been operating in the 13 provinces of northern and western Afghanistan. In these regions, ISAF also commands the military components of nine provincial reconstruction teams.

The coalition will maintain responsibility for Afghanistan’s eastern region, also known as Regional Command East, which includes the provinces of Paktika, Ghazni, Bamyán, Maydan Wardak, Logar, Khowst, Nangahar, Kabul, Parwan, Laghman,

Kunar, Nuristan and Panjsher. Afghan and coalition forces there conduct regular combat patrols to deny insurgents freedom of movement and sanctuary, to defeat the Taliban and related movements, and to prevent the re-emergence of terrorism in Afghanistan, officials said. In addition, a significant coalition effort is under way to expand governance, reconstruction and medical assistance to the eastern provinces.

Since May, ISAF has been led by NATO’s Allied Rapid Response Corps, commanded by British Army Lt. Gen. David Richards. “NATO is here for the long-term, for as long as the government and people of Afghanistan require our assistance,” Richards said. “We are committed to Afghanistan and its future.”

ISAF will bring in more international military forces and will continue the efforts of the coalition to provide security as well as reconstruction projects and humanitarian assistance. ISAF expansion is crucial to the southern region’s long-term progress, officials said.

“Today’s transfer of authority demonstrates to the Afghan people that there is a strong commitment of the part of the international community to further extend security into the southern province,” said U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Karl Eikenberry, commander of coalition forces. “This is a seamless transfer of responsibility and authority from the coalition’s Operation Enduring Freedom to NATO/ISAF. Having NATO, an organization consisting of 26 partners including the United States, committed to Afghanistan’s future is good for the Afghan people and the entire international community.”

(Compiled from Combined Forces Command Afghanistan and NATO news releases.)

No free credit monitoring for veterans

by Beth Reece
Army News Service

WASHINGTON—The White House withdrew its funding request for free credit monitoring services for the 26.5 million veterans and family members whose information was thought to be impacted by the May 3 theft of a Department of Veterans Affairs computer.

Veterans Affairs Secretary R. James Nicholson announced the recovery of the stolen computer June 29, eight days after he announced that the agency would provide one year of free credit monitoring to those whose Social Security numbers and birthdates were feared stolen.

“The FBI has a high degree of confidence – based on the results of the forensic tests and information gathered during the investigation – that the sensitive data files were not accessed or compromised,” said White House Budget Director Rob Portman in a letter to House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert.

“On the basis of the FBI’s analysis, the administration has concluded that credit monitoring services and the associated funding will no longer be necessary,” Portman added.

Despite good news that the database was

uncompromised, VA continues soliciting bids from companies that provide data-breach analysis to ensure information is kept secure in the future, according to VA spokesman Matt Burns.

“The VA has funds in its budget that can be used for this purpose,” Burns said, “and there will be no diminution in the quality of health care and other services provided to veterans as a result of this expenditure.”

Since the theft, numerous personnel changes have taken place in the Office of Policy and Planning, where the breach occurred. VA has also hired a special advisor for information security and re-energized its cyber security and privacy awareness training.

As FBI’s “high degree of confidence” is not 100 percent assurance that veterans’ personal information is safe, Army officials recommend Soldiers continue monitoring their credit reports.

The Fair Credit Reporting Act requires each of the nation’s consumer reporting companies – Equifax, Experian and Trans Union – to provide one free credit a report a year to each citizen, per the individual’s request. To receive a free credit report, go to annualcreditreport.com or call (877) 322-8228.

Bush calls for lasting Middle East cease-fire, end of status quo

by Steven Smith
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—The current Middle East crisis between Israel and Hezbollah is part of a larger struggle between the forces of freedom and terror, President Bush said July 31 in Miami.

“For decades, the status quo in the Middle East permitted tyranny and terror to thrive,” Bush said during a speech at the U.S. Coast Guard Integrated Support Command. “And as we saw on September the 11th, the status quo in the Middle East led to death and destruction in the United States, and it had to change.”

Bush said America must continue to oppose terrorism by promoting democracy across the broader Middle East. “This task is long, it is difficult work, but it is necessary work,” he said.

The advance of democracy will give the people of the region a brighter future, will help eliminate terrorist safe havens and make the U.S. more secure, he said.

The president said Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice’s recent trip to the region has helped calm the situation. “She is working urgently to get a sustainable cease-fire--a cease-fire which will last,” he said.

The United States is working toward a U.N. resolution to end the violence and lay the groundwork for a lasting peace accord, Bush said. He highlighted the importance for the international community to remember that the current conflict began with the actions of Hezbollah.

“As we work with friends and allies, it is important to remember this crisis began with Hezbollah’s unprovoked terrorist attacks against Israel,” he said. “Israel is exercising its right to defend itself.”

Hezbollah – Arabic for “Party of God” – is a Lebanese terror group inspired by the Iran’s Islamic Revolution of 1979. The group was founded in 1982 with the goal getting Israeli troops to withdraw from southern Lebanon, which they eventually did in 2000. Hezbollah consists of political and military wings, and its formidable influence in Lebanon is often likened to a “state within a state.” Hezbollah reportedly is backed financially by Iran and Syria.

The tensions between Israel and Hezbollah escalated when Hezbollah guerrillas kidnapped two Israeli soldiers July 12. The terror group then fired numerous rockets on northern Israeli cities and towns, causing Israeli troops to reenter southern Lebanon in an effort to stop the rocket attacks.

The president stressed that clear objectives must be achieved before a workable peace can be take root. For instance, Lebanon’s democratically elected government must exercise sole authority over its territory, and Iran and Syria must end their support of terrorism and respect Lebanon’s national sovereignty, he said.

“This approach will make it possible what so many around the world want to see: the end of Hezbollah’s attacks on Israel, the return of the Israeli soldiers taken hostage by the terrorists, the suspension of Israel’s operations in Lebanon, and the eventual withdrawal of Israeli forces,” he said.

Later in the day, Bush spoke about today’s U.N. resolution that calls on Iran to quit its nuclear program by Aug. 31 or face sanctions. He said the resolution was proof that America and its allies can achieve diplomatic objectives.

“The Iranians must hear loud and clear with this resolution the world is intent upon working together to make sure that they do not end up with a nuclear weapon or the know-how to build a nuclear weapon,” Bush said.

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TEAM
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Col. Alberto: His role, vision for Tobyhanna

Editor's Note: The Reporter staff asked depot commander Col. Ron Alberto several questions shortly after he assumed command.

Q. What are your first impressions of the work force and the mission?

A. First, let me say once again how excited and humbled I am to be your commander. There is no greater honor than to serve with and for professionals like you. Team Tobyhanna is committed to its mission and understands at every level the importance of providing reliable and predictable service to the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines who are in harm's way around the globe protecting our Nation. The depot has a passion for excellence — whether it is writing an information paper for a four star general so he understands an aspect of our operation, a personnel action for one of our dedicated employees or executing our maintenance mission. The work force is first class. Your willingness to work anytime and anywhere, sometimes in harm's way, to accomplish the mission is heartening.

Now more than ever, the mission at Tobyhanna is critical to our Army and the rest of our Armed Forces. As you know, we are an Army in transformation while simultaneously fighting the Global War on Terrorism. Tobyhanna has a critical role in that transformation as more weapon systems become dependent on C4ISR and electronic interfaces to move, shoot and communicate on the battlefield.

Finally, the leadership team — we call it the Primary Team — pursues every opportunity to grow business at the depot — not just next year, but in five years and in 10 years.

Q. Were you familiar with the work done here prior to this assignment?

A. This past year I was the support operations officer for the Eighth U.S. Army in Korea. I was responsible for, among other things, the maintenance and readiness of all units and equipment in Korea. As a customer, I saw first hand the capabilities of the depot. Just weeks before I departed Korea, we had a critical failure in our Firefinder radar systems just as North Korea was preparing to test new long-range missiles. Tobyhanna technicians came to the rescue, traveling to Korea to repair our Firefinders.

Q. You have implemented a depot motto of "Team Tobyhanna—Excellence in Electronics". Would you discuss the importance of a team approach to mission accomplishment?

A. Team and teamwork are critical to our success. No single person in the depot accomplishes his or her daily mission without touching another person on the team. The team is everyone who makes Tobyhanna tick: government employees — uniformed and civilian; contractors — on staff and supplying parts; our higher headquarters — defining, controlling and fighting for workload; our customers — telling us what they need, when and where they need it, and then giving us constructive and critical feedback so we can continue to improve.

Q. What is your vision for Tobyhanna?

A. I hope to leave Tobyhanna better than I received it. That will be a challenge because the depot's tradition

I love what I do. I'm a hands-on leader. I plan to spend time learning about what each of you do and about your concerns both today and for the future.

of mission accomplishment is unprecedented. My responsibility is to grow the business, to build enduring relationships and to structure Tobyhanna so that it can continue to maintain legacy systems while transforming to meet the challenges of maintaining the modular systems of the transformed Army.

From my seat, there are five means to achieving this vision.

First, we must never forget that our primary customers are our joint warriors.

Second, safety and environmental protection are principal responsibilities. First, let me say that I am the Command Safety Officer and that each of you are my safety eyes and ears. There is nothing we do that warrants risk of injury to personnel. We are also the custodians of the environment. We must do everything possible to protect our environment from damage and to preserve it for our children's children.

Third, security and force protection are fundamental responsibilities. The nature of our business coupled with being a U.S. Army installation makes us a potential target and mandates strict adherence to established procedures.

Fourth, we must improve our processes. We will not be successful and remain competitive if we do not embrace change for the sake of quality, reliability, consistency, and efficiency.

Fifth, I expect each of you to be responsible and honest stewards of the taxpayers' resources.

Q. What skills/knowledge/experience do you bring to the depot?

A. I bring a warfighter understanding and perspective. My educational background is engineering — civil, mechanical and electrical. Over my career, I worked in a program manager's office developing a new weapon system; I worked in a commodity command (we call them life cycle management commands today); I deployed to support Operation Desert Storm; and I commanded the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant. I think I have a pretty good understanding of the government industrial base.

Assignments coupled with professional and military training courses have prepared me for command, but you will be the judge of my qualifications to command here.

Q. How would you describe your leadership style?

A. The most important aspect of my style is my energy and passion — I love what I do. I'm a hands-on leader. I plan to spend time on the production floor talking with the technicians, learning about what each of you do and about your concerns both today and for the future. I believe in the Army values and want to make them a foundation for how we operate. If our Soldiers can live these values in harsh environments, then we owe it to them to live those values in our professional lives as well.

I'm a patriot. At West Point, they taught us the motto "Duty — Honor — Country". I live that motto every day. Finally, I will treat you with dignity and respect, and demand that you do the same with your coworkers, your seniors and your subordinates. There is no compromise here.

Let me add a couple thoughts about my leadership philosophy. I have three basic components to my leadership philosophy — teamwork, empowerment and chain of command. About empowerment — it's my job to provide you the resources and tools to be successful. I cannot be a budget analyst, a personnel specialist or an electronics technician. I must trust that you will do your part to make the team successful. I firmly believe in the concept of a chain of command — it is a proven concept in business, government and military around the world. Consequently, I expect you to use your supervisory chain of command and I hold supervisors at all levels accountable to the mission, the institution and to the work force.



Pat Esposito briefs depot commander Col. Ron Alberto on issues within the Production Management Directorate. As part of his assessment of depot operations, the new commander will visit each organization and tenant activity. (Photo by Tracey Condi)

Q. You mentioned a sense of humor in your Command Philosophy—how important do you feel that is when commanding an organization like Tobyhanna?

A. It is important to be able to laugh at yourself once in a while. That is no less important at work. Part of my job is to lower the stress level when things get a little too serious — I try to do that through humor.

Q. What do you feel is this organization's best asset?

A. It's people — plain and simple! In a job interview years ago, a commander asked me what is more important, "the mission or your Soldiers?" I sat back unprepared for this question and wondered where this test was going. Without much consideration, I answered very simply, "Sir, it's the Soldiers. If I take care of them they will take care of the mission." I got the job.

I am committed to the work force — you are the backbone of Team Tobyhanna and make me proud every day. I am equally committed to a partnership with your union representatives. Union leaders are your spokespersons and I will work with them to address your concerns.

Q. Can you tell us a little about your background? Family? Where you're from? Hobbies?

A. I'm the product of a military family. My parents met and married in the Air Force. Later, my mother became pregnant with me and had to resign her commission. You could not serve if you were pregnant in those days — we've come a long way since then. I have two brothers and two sisters — they are all successful in their own careers and families.

I think I've moved 28 times in my 45 years. My wife is Col. Donna Alberto. She's currently serving in Korea and I already miss her. My number one hobby is work. I like sports — mostly individual sports like running, cycling, skiing and golf.

Q. Any comments to add?

A. I'd like to focus on improving the agility and flexibility to move our work force rapidly and efficiently to where funding and assets are. I think we need to develop a system to move the work force around the depot rapidly to meet the immediate needs of our customers. Second, I'm not sure we embrace change as well as I'd like. This is a broad statement but it covers everything from changed personnel policies to changed depot operations as they grow from Lean and Six Sigma events.

Bottom line, we must transform if we are to remain relevant to the Army and the Joint Warfighter well into the future. I'll also work this one hard as well.

Tobyhanna Women's Club helps defray tuition costs

by **Jacqueline Boucher**
Assistant Editor

The Tobyhanna Women's Club (TWC) presented six \$1,000 scholarships to high school graduates and college students during a luncheon July 13 at The Landing.

The college-level recipients are Kristyn Super, Karla Schoenberger, and Kaitlin Bushinski. High school graduate-level recipients are Justin Brooks, Jesse Robertson and Megan Kopec. The winners, selected from 33 applicants, can use the money toward tuition expenses.

TWC scholarships are merit based, according to Eileen Rizzo, scholarship committee member. Applications were evaluated based on the student's transcripts, volunteer activities, extra-curricular involvement, a letter of recommendation and an essay written by the student.

"All of the students selected are active in their schools and communities," Rizzo said. "They all have jobs, play sports, perform in the band or are members of a club. Plus they earn excellent grades."

The college students were asked to write an essay regarding a remark Ben Franklin made about "those who would give up liberty for a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety."

"All respondents to the essay found in Ben Franklin's statement a current events parallel. For instance, (the review of) personal liberties to keep us safe from terrorism," Rizzo said.

The high school essay assignment had the students explore what a person learns from failure rather than success. Applicants were asked to describe an event where they failed, and tell how what they learned from that event made them a better, stronger person.

Karla Schoenberger is majoring in political science at Kutztown University.

Kristyn Super is majoring in criminal justice and political science at Lycoming College. Kristyn works at Tobyhanna during the summer and plans to intern in Washington, D.C., in the fall.

Kaitlin Bushinski is majoring in comparative literature at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio. She is spending her summer living and working near school.

Megan Kopec is a 2006 graduate of Elmer L. Meyers High School, Wilkes-Barre. She plans to major in biology at Bloomsburg University. In her essay, Kopec noted, "One of the most important tactics needed in a debate is the ability to adapt and learn from your mistakes."



Brad Jones, chief of staff, center, presented scholarships to, (front row) from left, Karla Schoenberger, Justin Brooks, Kristyn Super and Jesse Robertson. Back row: Kathy Winowich, TWC member; Kevin Toolan, essay judge; Marti Stanczak, essay judge; Eileen Rizzo, TWC member; Dan McCauley, essay judge; and Terry Williams, TWC member. (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski)

Justin Brooks is a 2006 graduate of Pocono Mountain West High School. He will be attending Penn State University at University Park. In his essay, he wrote, "Success is measured instead by how we deal with those wins and losses and whether or not we continue on despite the terrible feeling of failure."

Jesse Robertson is a 2006 graduate of Scranton High School. He plans to major in meteorology at Penn State University at University Park campus. In his essay, he wrote, "I hope to hear an unfamiliar person comment my service to others was valuable. Concerning this goal, failure is not an option."

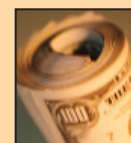
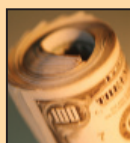


Depot rolls out red carpet

(Left) Robert Doyle, right, talks to Lt. Gen. William E. Mortensen about the power supply for a video display unit while the general visits the Avionics Division, Command, Control and Computer Systems/Avionics Directorate Aug. 1. Mortensen is the deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Materiel Command, Fort Belvoir, Va. (Above) Charlotte Lent, industrial engineer, Logistics Support Activity (LOGSA) Packaging, Storage and Containerization Center, describes how the rotating drum is used to comparison test packaging. While here, the general also attended a command overview briefing, toured mission operations and discussed the Logistics Modernization Program. (Photos by Steve Grzedzinski)

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Employees learn art of speaking in public

by **Jacqueline Boucher**
Assistant Editor

Not all people are born with the gift of gab. For some, speaking in public comes easily; for others it triggers butterflies in the stomach, sweaty palms and wobbly legs.

A few months ago a small group of Tobyhanna employees turned to Toastmasters International to help them improve their communication and leadership skills. The program employs a series of exercises to help individuals learn how to become a capable speaker.

Public speaking used to make Maryann Fagan very uncomfortable. Since joining the group, she has learned techniques to help her cope with what, she claimed, was one of her biggest fears.

"I've always had a fear and insecurity of public speaking," said the management assistant.

She joined Toastmasters for a couple of reasons. "I wanted to try to overcome my fear, augment my career and use my new skills to help the depot." Fagan works in the

Business Management Directorate.

Gary Roberts said he first heard about the program a couple years ago while attending a leadership workshop. Roberts, who serves as the Toastmasters club president, thought employees and the depot would benefit from what the program offered. The structured program teaches the novice and seasoned professional in a supportive learning environment, he said.

In February, depot leaders approved Roberts' plan to start a local chapter, paving the way for up to 30 Toastmaster members to meet every other Thursday from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Lackawanna Room.

"I had never heard of Toastmasters, and the way they described it, it sounded fantastic. I enjoy speaking so this was right up my alley," Roberts said. "Seventy-seven people responded to the initial marketing effort." Roberts is a production controller on the Master Production Scheduling Team, Production Management Directorate.

Toastmasters provides tools that enable employees to become effective communicators and leaders at all levels of

an organization. The organization's Web site touts the programs mutually supportive and positive learning environment that helps develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn fosters self-confidence and personal growth. There are more than 10,000 clubs and two million members in about 90 countries.

"Most members of our group have been asked to speak to visiting dignitaries or something at some time in their career," said Gene Davis, club vice president and public relations representative. "For some members, the ability to speak in public is a career goal. They know that at some point they will be asked and want to be prepared." Davis is an equipment specialist, Communications Security (COMSEC) Division, Communications Systems Directorate.

Toastmaster's self-paced training program includes a communication track and a leadership track. In the communication track, members learn communication skills as they prepare and present speeches. In the leadership track, members learn leadership skills as they complete projects and serve in leadership roles.

"I joined to fine tune the skills I already have," Davis said. "Toastmasters helped me to keep my thoughts organized, keep the presentation flowing and get the point across.

"If it wasn't for Toastmasters, I'd be reading the Powerpoint slides in my briefings as opposed to talking abstractly about the subject matter," he said.

Each new member receives a kit featuring a manual, orientation materials and other information regarding skill improvement in areas such as speech evaluation and the use of gestures. In addition, speeches are assigned to help participants develop competency in areas

such as organization, voice inflection and persuasiveness. Another segment, called table topics, teaches members how to think on their feet by delivering short impromptu speeches.

"Table topics is my favorite part of the meeting," Roberts said. "Once someone brought in a bag of gadgets, handed one to each of us and told us to explain what it was or how to use it."

He grinned and added, "Even if you don't know much about a particular subject, it's an excellent opportunity to see how convincing a liar you can be. The point is, if caught unaware, can you forge ahead, maintain composure and keep speaking as if you know exactly what you're talking about?"

Joe Raymer joined the group to develop skills he learned in college. He also likes the table top exercises.

"You're asked a question and have to formulate your thoughts quickly and off the cuff," said Raymer, electronics engineer, Production Engineering Directorate. "You also learn how to transition to a different topic. For instance, if asked to describe a sunny day, you could respond by saying 'well I don't know about a sunny day, but let me tell you about rainy days.'"

Each speech is evaluated by a member of the group. The process is used to recognize strengths and weaknesses. Both Raymer and Fagan agree this feedback is very helpful.

"The feedback is what makes Toastmasters what it is today," Raymer said. "We get to provide constructive comments to help others improve."

"I know this training will help with my job," Fagan said. "Everyone is so supportive. I knew this would be a safe place to overcome my fears.

"I still get nervous," Fagan said, "but I'm no longer frightened."

Rumsfeld: Army 'vastly better' in equipment, training, experience

by **Donna Miles**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON— Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld disputed recent assertions Aug. 2 that the Army is declining in readiness due to equipment shortfalls.

"The truth, as anyone in the Army leadership will tell you, is that the Army today is vastly better than it was two, four, six or eight years ago," Rumsfeld told Pentagon reporters.

"It has much more equipment, much better equipment, and it's better trained and more experienced," he said. "It is a better Army."

All units deployed to Iraq meet one of the top two readiness levels, "C1" or "C2," for the jobs they're carrying out, the secretary said. "And that's what's important."

C-ratings are an official measure used to describe units ready for their assigned mission. The rating reflects reflect personnel,

equipment and training, and even a slight shortfall in any one category will lower a unit's overall rating.

For example, units that return from a deployment without their equipment — leaving it for the follow-on unit to use so equipment isn't constantly reshuffled between theaters — would receive a lower "C" rating until they received replacement equipment, he noted.

Rumsfeld urged reporters to recognize the realities of war — that units returning from a deployment go through a resetting period when they return. Unit members go to school, fix their equipment and do what's required to get themselves prepared for the next deployment.

"You expect a deployable force to drop down in readiness when it's not being deployed," he said. "And you expect it to be ready when it is being deployed for the thing that it is designed to do and is being asked to do."



An eye for detail

It takes Brenda Staples about two weeks to look for knicks, splices, cuts, and twisted pairs of wires on a U7 panel prior to the mechanical and electrical inspection. The panel goes on an AN/TSP-75 Defense Radar System, which is a mobile tactical radar system. Staples is an electronics worker in the Electronic Services Division, Systems Integration and Support Directorate. (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski)

CAREER MILESTONE



From left, Thomas Cavanaugh, Robert Smith, depot commander Col. Ron Alberto, Mark Starruick and Douglas French attend the July 27 Length of Service Awards ceremony. (Photo by Tony Medici)

Four Tobyhanna Army Depot employees were recognized for their years of government service during the July 27 Length of Service ceremony.

Robert Smith, 40 years, electronics mechanic, Communications Security Division, Communications Systems Directorate.

Mark Starruick, 35 years, electronics mechanic, Command, Control and Computer (C-3) Systems Division, Intelligence, C-3/Avionics Directorate.

Douglas French, 35 years, electronic integrated systems mechanic, Air Traffic Control Division, Intelligence, Surveillance and

Reconnaissance Directorate.

Thomas Cavanaugh, 35 years, supply technician, Equipment and Supply Division, Public Works Directorate.

In addition to service certificates and pins, 40-year honorees receive a crystal eagle from the Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command and a gold watch from Tobyhanna; 35-year honorees receive an engraved clock.

Honorees who attend the ceremony get a four-hour time-off award. Depot commander Col. Ron Alberto presented the awards.

DIVISION CHIEF

Edward Farrell is the Firefinder Engineering Support Division chief, Production Engineering Directorate.

As chief, he supervises 17 engineering personnel who provide overhaul, production, testing, and new product enhancement technical support for the AN/TPQ-36 and AN/TPQ-37 Firefinder Field Artillery Weapon Locating Radar Systems. The radar automatically locates the firing position of hostile mortars, artillery and rockets. The AN/TPQ-36 is a mobile radar set capable of detecting weapon projectiles, and the AN/TPQ-37 quickly locates long-range artillery and rocket launcher positions.

Prior to his current position, Farrell was a Firefinder project engineer for the same division. He began his career at Tobyhanna in June 1989.

Farrell's work has earned several performance awards, including the Communications-



Farrell

Electronics Life Cycle Management Command Commander's Medallion for Firefinder support, Project Manager Radars Coin for excellence in support of Firefinder radars and the Tobyhanna Commander's Coin for outstanding performance on the Firefinder program.

Farrell is a 1985 graduate of Seton Catholic High School, Pittston. He earned a bachelor's degree in electronics engineering from University of Scranton in 1989.

He and his wife, Mary Beth, reside in Plains. They are the parents of Shane, 12, and Molly, 10.

Farrell is a member of the Association of the United States Army, St. John the Evangelist Church Holy Name Society, Pittston, and vice president of the Athletic Association, St. Mary's Assumption School, Pittston.

His hobbies include playing basketball, watching movies, reading and traveling. He is a Duke basketball fan and coaches two youth basketball teams at St. Mary's Assumption School—seventh grade boys and fifth grade girls.

WELCOME TO THE DEPOT

Name	Title	Organization
James Bell	Painter helper	D/SIS
Jeremy Crow	Electronics mechanic	D/C3/Avionics
Michael Dietrick	Equipment specialist, electronics	D/C3/Avionics
Leo Gingerlowski	General equipment repairer	D/SIS
Frank Healy	Painter helper	D/SIS
Walter Jaskulka	Distribution process worker	DDTP
Steven Manson	Equipment specialist, electronics	D/C3/Avionics
Jaime Martinez	Equipment specialist, electronics	D/C3/Avionics
Paul McKiernan	Electronics mechanic	D/C3/Avionics
Michael Ordonia	Equipment specialist, electronics	D/C3/Avionics
Christopher Paulic	Equipment cleaner	D/SIS
Eric Richards	Distribution process worker	DDTP
Janet Richline	Packer	DDTP
Stephen Seig	Sheet metal mechanic helper	D/SIS
Willie Smith	Equipment specialist, electronics	D/C3/Avionics
Robert Stevens	General equipment repairer	D/SIS
John Stravinski	Packer	DDTP
Eddie Thomas	Equipment specialist, electronics	D/C3/Avionics
David Welker	Safety/occupational health spec	D/IRM

NEW SUPERVISORS

Samuel Wilson is the Mission Operations Management Branch chief, Production Management Directorate.

As chief, he supervises 18 people who provide strategic analysis and perform studies on productivity and financial matters pertaining to mission, organization, functions, systems and operations. The branch also furnishes current and future workload analysis by cost center, directorate and mission levels, and reviews, analyzes and evaluates managerial policies and procedures related to mission manpower and organizational design.

Wilson began his career at Tobyhanna in May.

He joined the Army in 1984, retiring as a command sergeant major after 22 years of service. Wilson held leadership positions from drill sergeant to major command, command sergeant major. During his career, he served overseas in Germany, Korea, Southwest Asia, the Netherlands, Belgium and Italy. His stateside assignments included Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort Knox, Ky.; Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.; Fort McNair, Washington, D.C., Fort Lee, Va., and Fort Jackson, S.C.

Wilson's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster; Meritorious Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters; Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters; and Army Achievement Medal with five oak leaf clusters. He was named 1984 All-Army-World Class Athlete in wrestling and Major Command Noncommissioned Officer of the Year in 1991.

He is a 1982 graduate of Fort Wayne Southside High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Wilson earned a bachelor's degree in 1984, graduating Magna Cum Laude from Indiana University; a Master of Business Administration degree in 1997 from Central Michigan University, and a Master of Arts degree in 2003 from Webster University.

Wilson resides in East Stroudsburg. He has two children: Samuel, 13 and Katherine, 14. His hobbies include sports, home improvement and traveling.

Patrick Williamson is the Digital Group Multiplexer/Mobile Subscriber Equipment Branch chief, Communications Systems Directorate.

As chief, he supervises 39 people who perform overhaul, repair, testing and field support of standard and specialized wire communications, multiplexers and switchboards.

Prior to his current position, he was a work leader in the same branch. He began his career at Tobyhanna in June 1981.

He served four years in the Air Force as a member of the 4392nd Civil Engineering Squadron, Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force (PRIME BEEF), Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.

Williamson's awards and decorations include the Air Force Good Conduct Medal and Outstanding Unit Award.

He is a 1976 graduate of Meyers High School, Wilkes-Barre.

Williamson resides in Wilkes-Barre with his wife, Suzanne. They are the parents of Brian, 20, Jillian, 17, and Andrea, 15.

He is a member of Wilkes-Barre Cosmos Soccer, the GAR Soccer Booster Club and St. Nicholas Catholic Church, Wilkes-Barre.

His hobbies include hunting, hiking and fishing.



Wilson

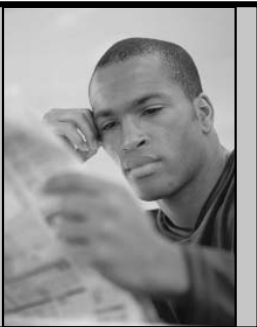


Williamson

Feature stories sought

The *Tobyhanna Reporter* is looking for feature stories about depot employees. If you have, or know someone who has, an interesting story to tell, contact the *Reporter* staff (see contact information on Page 2).

We've published articles about employee ranging from boat racing to blacksmithing; some have earned awards at the highest levels of the Army.



COMMUNITY BULLETIN

Editor's Note: The Community Bulletin provides an avenue for depot and tenant employees to advertise van or car pools, and for-sale items. Money making items such as rentals and personal business will not be accepted.

Information must be submitted via e-mail to Jacqueline Boucher@tobyhanna.army.mil, or written items can be mailed to the Public Affairs Office, mail stop 5076.

Submissions must include a name and telephone extension. Only home phone numbers will be published in the Trading Post section.

Ads will be published in four consecutive newspapers. It is the customer's responsibility to update or renew items listed in the Community Bulletin.

For more information, call Jacqueline Boucher, X58073.



VAN/CAR POOLS

- **Clarks Summit:** 2 openings, van, non-smoking, 5/4/9, call Paul Sacco, X56725 or Rich Joyce, X56774.
- **Glen Lyon, Nanticoke, Plymouth, Ashley and Sugar Notch:** 1 opening, 6-passenger, van, pick up at Route 309 across from McDonalds at park and ride in Wilkes-Barre, departure time is 5:40 a.m., 5/4/9, second Friday off, call Ray Tarnowski, X57331 or 736-6383.
- **Back Mountain, Dallas:** 1 opening, 7-passenger, van, non-smoking, 5/4/9, also accepting names for waiting list, call Woody, X58876 or Mike, X59103.
- **Broadheadsville, Palmerton:** openings 5/4/9, along routes 209 and 115, and Kuhenbeaker and Long Pond roads, call Keith, X7925.
- **Back Mountain, Swoyersville, Forty Fort, Kingston:** new, van pool, 7 passenger, 5/4/9, non-smoking, contact Chris Antall by e-mail or call X59088.
- **Moosic, Greenwood, Minooka:** 2 openings, van pool, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., door-to-door pickup, call Matt, X56733.
- **Larksville, Kingston, Plymouth, South Wilkes-Barre:** new, van pool, 7 passenger, non-smoking, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., leaves Price Chopper parking lot in Edwarsville at 5:45 a.m., call John Stochla, X58793 or Wayne Watkins, X5-8569.
- **Lakeville, Hawley, Tafton:** start a new van pool, or

Lakeville, Hamlin and Sterling areas, call Shep, X56059.

- **Jim Thorpe, surrounding area:** 1-2 openings, van, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., call Pat, X57671.
- **Clarks Summit:** 1 opening, car, 5/4/9, first Friday off, non-smoking, "A" placard, call Joan, X56223.
- **Pittston:** 1 opening starting Sept. 1, submit form by July 15 to receive vouchers, 15 passengers, van, 5/4/9, pick up point is Pittston Plaza, send e-mail or call Linda Cohen, X57362 or Bill Klimchak, X57230.
- **Stroudsburg:** 1 opening, 5/4/9, van, pickup point in south Stroudsburg, e-mail John.kulp@tobyhanna.army.mil.
- **Clarks Summit:** 1 opening, van, 5/4/9, "A" placard, non-smoking, call Dave Burt, X58902 or Rich Joyce, X56774.
- **Plains, Wilkes Barre, Miners Mills:** 2 openings, van, 15 passengers, 5/4/9, call Joe Walski, X57240.
- **Clarks Summit:** 2 openings, 5/4/9, pickup point at the VFW, contact John Bevard, X56250 or e-mail.
- **Pittston:** Openings, 5/4/9, leaves Pittston Plaza at 6 a.m., call Stanley, X59967 or Dave, X57067.



TRADING POST

- **Truck cover:** Fiberglass Tonneau cover, fits 2000-2004 Dakota crew cab, new \$900, asking \$200, call 688-0764.
- **Macaw:** 4-years old, blue and gold, speaks well and often, plays peek-a-boo, loves to be cuddled and enjoys the outdoors and people food very much, requires a lot of attention, asking \$1,200 OBO, comes with cage, play stand and all his toys and accessories, call Patricia at 883-9981.
- **Household items:** gas stove, Kenmore washer and dryer, sofa bed and recliner, 2 upright curios, floor-model television, Princess House crystal, mountain bike, clothes, women's leather jacket, microwave, tools, and kitchen appliances, call Bobbi Jo Gable, 240-0810 or 836-6690.
- **Air Conditioner:** Portable, floor model, 10,000 BTU, used 3 months, new, \$385, asking \$200, call Gloria, 876-3978.
- **Truck cap:** Leer, white with roof rack, sliding tinted windows, 3 years old, fits Chevy trucks 1999-2006, excellent condition, asking \$850 OBO, call Sandy, 351-8091.
- **Chevy van:** 1995, Astro conversion, burgundy, 85k miles, 4.3 liter engine, ABS, A/C, C/C, tilt steering, overhead/

mood lights, front and rear speakers, rear electric seat/bed, rear mounted vacuum and fire extinguisher, and electric mirrors, doors, locks, and windows, asking \$4,995, call Dennis, 610-377-2588.

- **Mercury Marque:** 1993, Grey, 4.6 liter engine, under 70k, backend (right side) hit, asking \$900 OBO, call Denise, 570-788-3767.
- **Captain's chairs:** full-size, never used, includes bases, blue/silver, asking \$40 each OBO, and a Foosball table, \$25 call David, 457-5783.
- **Car seat:** Alpha Omega, 5-point adjustable harness, 5-40 lbs.; rear facing 5-35 lbs. and forward facing, 22-40 lbs., excellent condition, asking \$25, call Karen, 842-1204.
- **Misc. items:** Large igloo-style dog house, \$20; portable manual typewriter with case, good condition, old, sturdy, all metal, \$25; mini trampoline, 36-inch diameter, for exercising, \$10; cardioglide exerciser, push/pull action, \$15; and ice cream machine, like new, freeze canister, makes about 1/2 gallon, \$10, call Ruth Montalbano, 676-5246 after 5 p.m.
- **Golf clubs:** Titleist 8040S irons, RH, 3 to PW, stiff steel shafts, good condition, asking \$225; Taylor Made Rescue Mid, RH, #2 hybrid, 16 degrees, stiff steel shaft, like new, \$60; many more used golf clubs, call Chris, 332-9181.
- **Canoe:** Looking to purchase a canoe, call Mary, 504-4827.
- **Sleeper sofa:** Queen-size, \$150 OBO, call Darlene, 894-4912.
- **Boat:** Starcraft Semi V, 12 feet, 10 horsepower Johnson outboard motor, trailer, \$1,495, call Al Aukscunas, 343-9541.
- **Pool heater:** Hayward, hoses included, 150,000 BTU, like new, used one season, original cost \$1,000, asking \$650, call Darlene, 894-4912.
- **Household items:** Antique dining hutch, \$250; antique round pedestal occasional table, \$75; youth, wood bunk bed set with mattresses, \$60; youth 3-drawer dresser and 4-drawer desk, \$20 each; recliner, \$40; weight set and bench, \$30, and brass bed, \$200, call Terry, 839-2416 or 839-9428.
- **Recreational vehicles:** ATV, 2005 Polaris Trail Boss 330, excellent condition, rode twice, \$3,500 OBO, and 1998 Ford Minnie Winnebago, 22 feet, Class C, 33,682 miles, sleeps 6, bathroom in rear w/stand-up shower, roof A/C and heater, trailer hitch, refrigerator, freezer, 3-burner stove/oven, microwave/hood combo, color TV, DVD player, asking \$26,500, call Cristin, 472-3319 or 972-6332.

RETIREES

Three employees met with depot commander Col. Ron Alberto July 28 before retiring.

Henry Eggert was an integrated systems technician, Command Control and Computer (C-3) Systems Division, C-3/Avionics Directorate.

He served more than two years in the Army before starting work at Tobyhanna in 1978.

Eggert resides in Lake Harmony with his wife, Charlotte. They are the parents of Brandy, Chad and Stacey.

After retirement he plans to fish, hunt and work around the house.

Stephen Proch was an electronic mechanic, Tactical Communications Division, Communications Systems Directorate.

He served three years in the Army before starting work at Tobyhanna in 1972.

Proch resides in Gouldsboro with his wife, Amanda. They are the parents of Heather, 33; Stephen Jr.,

31; Aaron, 20; Christopher, 17, and grandparents of Taylor, 8.

His hobbies include restoring old American Flyer trains, remodeling his 130-year old home and spoiling his granddaughter.

Robert Rader was an electronics mechanic, Air Defense Radar Components Branch, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Directorate.

He served four years in the Air Force and retired from the Air Force Reserve in 2002. He began his career at Tobyhanna in 1999.

Rader resides in Scranton with his wife, Lillian. His family includes two step-children: Cindy and Marvin, and two grandchildren.

His hobbies include fishing, bowling and tinkering around the house. After retirement he plans to fix up the house and travel. He's also thinking about getting a part time job just to stay busy.



Eggert



Proch



Rader

OBITUARIES

Paul Chorba died June 30. He was 59. His wife is the former Ann Zornow and they had been married for 36 years.

A native and resident of Peckville, he was the son of the former Anna Liptak and the late Paul G. Chorba. He was a 1965 graduate of Blakely High School and worked as a carpenter for F&S Builders, Peckville. He was a machinist in the depot's Systems Integration and Support Directorate. His depot career began in March 1982.

He served as a sergeant in the Air Force during the Vietnam War and was an avid hunter.

Also surviving are two sons, Paul J. Chorba III and Shawn Chorba; a brother, Richard Chorba and wife, Kathy; two grandchildren, Paul IV and Amanda.

Roxanna Ryan died at home July 20. She was 60.

Ryan resided in Pocono Summit and was employed as a supply technician, Air Traffic Control Scheduling Division, Production Management Directorate.

She was a Navy veteran and a member of St. Mary of the Mount Church, Mt. Pocono. She volunteered at St. Francis Soup Kitchen in Scranton and at local food pantries. Ryan was also a Eucharistic minister at St. Mary of the Mount and a religious educator for young adults and teens. She took her definitive vows with Our Lady of the Senacle Auxiliary. She is survived by a son, Wheatley Ryan of Woodland, Calif., a daughter, Kim Peters of Rancho Cordoba, Calif., and by three sisters; Charlene of Maine, Pauline of Florida and Paulette of Massachusetts.



Chorba



Ryan



Mike Weeks, left, and Norman Klimasiewski, materials handlers/packers, box items to support the Reset mission in Germany. (Photo by Tony Medici)



Peter Portonova, left, and Aryanna Hunter make sure the information on the KY-57, speech security equipment, matches the information on file. Portonova is a materials handler and Hunter is an electronics mechanic. (Photo by Tony Medici)

RESET from Page 1

68s are secure tactical field telephones. Other COMSEC equipment being repaired for the Reset effort includes trunk encryption and network inline encryption devices.

"The people who work here really care about the Soldier in the field," said Wayne Monroe, Shipping and Packing Branch chief. "They understand how their work affects the front-line warfighter."

Teams travel to installations such as Fort Bragg,

N.C. (XVII Airborne Corps); Fort Campbell, Ky. (101st Airborne Division); Fort Carson, Colo. (534th Signal Battalion); and Fort Stewart, Ga. (3rd Infantry Division).

"The Army units are very supportive of our work," said Paul Fick, electronics mechanic. "They make sure we have what we need to do the job."

As the Army's primary source for COMSEC Reset, employees here know that the work they do directly affects the Soldiers in the field.

"Our equipment allows Soldiers to communicate with each other in a secure manner," said Bob Smith, electronics mechanic. "It's a great feeling knowing we're helping them accomplish their mission." Smith has worked in COMSEC since 1994.

"It's an honor to work for the combat Soldier," said Michelle Young, another electronics mechanic who has been repairing COMSEC equipment for two years. She's preparing to deploy to Germany as part of a Reset mission.



Brian Dodgson performs a final inspection on a KG-194A Trunk Encryption Device before returning the Reset item to the customer. Dodgson is an electronics mechanic. (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski)

Noon Time Softball League

Standings as of August 3, 2006



Team	Win	Loss	Tie	GP
ENG	13	6	0	19
ASD	11	6	1	18
ADM	9	6	3	18
B72	8	8	0	16
MMM	8	9	1	18
PED	8	10	1	19
WGS	4	16	0	20

Home Run Derby

July 17, 2006



Player	Team	Hrs	Place
Mark Entwistle	MMM	7	1st
Tom Chernasky	ENG	6	2nd
Nate Thomas	ENG	3	3rd
John Kovacs	B72	3	4th
Tom Hooper	PED	2	
Ron Jarecki	ASD	2	
Ron Crisafulli	ASD	2	
Jack Andrejko	ENG	1	
Dave Brown	PED	1	
Garret Schoonover	MMM	1	
Mark Samsell	B72	1	
Ed Glinecki	ENG	0	
Beau Highfill	ADM	0	
Tim Krupski	ADM	0	
Jason Menago	PED	0	
Dan Stevens	WGS	0	
Lynwood Turlington	ENG	0	
Gary Black	WGS	0	

Third place tie breaker

Round 2: Five outs each; each hit two home runs.

Round 3: One-swing playoff; both hit home runs.

Round 4: One-swing playoff. Nate Thomas wins.



From left, George Kofira, league commissioner; Tom Musso, team manager; Jason Menago, Home Run Derby organizer; Col. Ron Alberto, depot commander; Mark Entwistle, 1st place; Jim Druby, team manager; Nate Thomas, 3rd place; Frank Zardecki, deputy depot commander; and Tom Chernasky, 2nd place; participate in the Home Run Derby trophy ceremony Aug. 2. (Photo by Tony Medici)